

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA  
JULY 12, 2012**

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held on Thursday, July 12, 2012, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

**Call to Order.** Presiding Officer Mayor Terry Seitz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Roll Call.**

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm called the roll.

Mayor Terry Seitz	Present
Council members:	
Gregory Schnarr	Present
David Prechtel	Present
Thomas Schmidt	Present
Earl Schmitt	Absent
Kevin Manley	Absent
Randall Buchta	Present
Raymond Howard	Absent
City Attorney Renee Kabrick	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm	Present

Clerk-Treasurer Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. Four of the seven council members were in attendance, which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

**Pledge of Allegiance.** Mayor Seitz invited all present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Purpose.** Mayor Seitz said the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the continuation of the Declaration of the Local Disaster Emergency that expires on July 14, 2012.

Mayor Seitz said at 8:00 a.m. on June 30, 2012 he issued a Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency that prohibited the use of fireworks for seven days. On July 2, 2012, the Council authorized the Mayor to extend that ban for an additional seven days. On a daily basis, the fire department has been assessing the dry conditions and has been advising the Mayor about those conditions.

Fire Captain Phil Schmidt said the fire threat is still very high. It did rain recently but not enough to lift the ban. The fire department feels an emergency still exists and the ban of fireworks should continue.

Mayor Seitz said the City has two choices; take no action and the emergency declaration ends at 8:00 a.m. on July 14, 2012 or authorize the Mayor to extend the declaration to perpetuity until the fire department recommends rescinding the ban.

A **motion** was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Randy Buchta to authorize the Mayor to extend the Local Disaster Emergency Declaration that bans the use of fireworks until receiving a recommendation from the fire department to rescind such declaration. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mandatory water conservation update.** Water Manager Mike Oeding gave an update concerning the mandatory water conservation declaration. He said they look at the water levels of the river at various locations on a daily basis. There has been a good response from the citizens regarding the mandatory water conservation order but feels we cannot relax the ban at this time. The entire State is having this same water shortage problem. Oeding said the Utility Service Board will discuss whether or not to relax the mandate at its meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Central Green.** Park Maintenance Superintendent J. P. Stempley said since the water used at the fountain at Central Green Park circulates, the fountain has been on according to the water conservation mandate rules from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Since some people do not get off work until 5:00 p.m., it has become an issue if the water is turned off at 6:00 p.m. Stempley said he feels it would be in the best interest of the public to extend the hours until 9:00 p.m. He said he usually turns on the water for the fountain about 8:00 a.m. so if they are limited to twelve hours, he recommends the water be on from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Seitz said he has the authority to grant such permission but he wanted to make the council members aware of this matter. Thereafter, Mayor Seitz granted the park department permission to run the water for the fountain at Central Green from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Council member Thomas Schmidt and seconded by Council member Randall Buchta to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 4-0 and the meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved \_\_\_\_\_ with X without corrections or clarification this 18<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012.

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**Mayor Terry Seitz**  
**Presiding Officer**

**Attest:**

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**Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer**